



Beaujolais Nouveau va arrive just in time for the opening of the restored “Matilde!”

Tomorrow, Thursday, November 16, the world over will celebrate the opening of this year’s Beaujolais Nouveau. A tradition at Chez Mathilde for the past seventeen years, the eighteenth observance of this tasty tradition will also welcome the reopening of a completely restored and properly named “Matilde.”

Owner Raoul Henriquez explained that the restaurant, reportedly the third oldest existing building in Oranjestad, was closed since September for refurbishing, and many of the additions of the past century were removed, leaving the façade of the building historically correct. The inside has been redone with a clean, contemporary flair, and art lovers have quite a surprise waiting for them when they enter for the first time for the welcoming of the 2006 Beaujolais Nouveau.

Some very interesting and informative touches have been made to the interior, such as exposing the construction of the building, giving diners an insight into to how the colonials built their homes centuries ago.

Thursday’s uncorking will feature the Beaujolais Nouveau of “Le Vins George Duboeuf” wineries from Aruba Trading Company, which Spirits Manager Jorge Curiel described as “a very young, fresh wine with a pure fruity flavor, sans undertones. It is fermented in stainless steel, and intended to be consumed immediately after the harvest.” The uncorking is accompanied by a gourmet six-course meal that is perfectly enhanced by this versatile vintage

What was known in the past as “Chez Mathilde” to countless lovers of fine dining, will be reopened as “Matilde.” Raoul Henriquez explained that the finding of an heirloom brooch belonging to the restaurant’s namesake enlightened the owners to the fact that for these many years the name had been misspelled. The restoration of the edifice to its original simple beauty seemed a perfect time to correct this.

The grand celebration of the uncorking of a fine wine and the welcome return of a favorite restaurant will take place starting at 7 P.M with the ritual wine tasting during a spectacular presentation for which “Chez Mathilde” has always been noted. Diners can then enjoy their meal and wine in “Matilde” the rest of the evening. Traditionally this celebration is by invitation, but Public Relations Manager Sabine van der Berg revealed that there are still places available to join in the festivities. Space is very limited, and reservations can be made by calling 583-2929. It will be a memorable evening, as always!